

Application No. 10/790941  
Page 2

Amendment  
Attorney Docket No. S63.2B-10812-US01

**Amendments To The Claims:**

Claim 1. (Currently amended) A positioning assembly of a crimper apparatus for automatically positioning a second first cylindrical member for crimping to a first second cylindrical member, the first cylindrical member defining a longitudinal axis, the positioning device comprising:

a first plate and a second plate, the first plate having a first nest to accommodate at least a portion of the first cylindrical member, the second plate having a second nest to accommodate at least a portion of the ~~first cylindrical member and/or at least a portion of the second cylindrical member, both the first cylindrical member nest and the second nest aligned along the cylindrical member having a longitudinal axis extending in a longitudinal direction,~~

the first plate and the second plate moveable relative to the second plate along one another in the longitudinal axis direction, in a first position the first plate constructed and arranged to be separated from the second plate in along the longitudinal axis direction, and in a second position the first plate immediately adjacent to closer to the second plate than in the first position, when in the second position the first plate and the second plate situated such that the first cylindrical member and the second cylindrical member would be in predetermined placement for joining.

Claim 2. (Currently amended) The positioning assembly of claim 1, wherein the first plate has a nest longitudinally is coaxially aligned with [[a]] the second nest on the second plate.

Claim 3. (Currently amended) A positioning assembly of a crimper apparatus for automatically positioning a first cylindrical member for crimping to a second cylindrical member comprising:

a first plate and a second plate, the first plate having a nest to accommodate at least a portion of the first cylindrical member, the second plate having a nest to accommodate at least a portion of the first cylindrical member and/or at least a portion of the second cylindrical member, both the first cylindrical member and the second cylindrical member having a longitudinal axis extending in a longitudinal direction;

the first plate moveable relative to the second plate in the longitudinal direction, in a first position the first plate separated from the second plate in the longitudinal direction, and in a second position the first plate immediately adjacent to the second plate, when in the second

*Application No. 10/790941*  
*Page 3*

*Amendment*  
*Attorney Docket No. S63.2B-10812-US01*

position the first plate and the second plate situated such that the first cylindrical member and the second cylindrical member would be in predetermined placement for joining:

The ~~positioning assembly of claim 2,~~ wherein the first plate has a nest longitudinally aligned with a nest on the second plate and with a nest on a third plate, the third plate immediately adjacent to the second plate.

Claim 4. (Currently amended) The positioning assembly of claim 1, wherein a first biasing member biases the first plate toward maintains the first position when activated.

Claim 5. (Currently amended) The positioning assembly of claim 4, wherein a second biasing member biases the first plate toward maintains the second position when the first biasing member is not activated.

Claim 6. (Original) The positioning assembly of claim 4 wherein the first biasing member is at least one solenoid.

Claim 7. (Currently amended) The positioning assembly of claim 5 wherein the second biasing member comprises a spring loaded force.

Claim 8. (Currently amended) The positioning assembly of claim 1, ~~wherein both the at least one second plate further comprising a third nest, the third nest offset from the second nest in a direction lateral to the longitudinal axis and the second plate have a plurality of nests, at least two nests on the at least one plate being longitudinally unaligned from one another and being longitudinally aligned with nests on the second plate.~~

Claim 9. (Currently amended) The positioning assembly of claim 8, wherein the second plate is moveable to align the third nest with the first nest along the longitudinal axis ~~a third plate with at least two nests longitudinally unaligned with one another are longitudinally aligned with nests on the first plate and the second plate.~~

Claim 10. (Original) The positioning assembly of claim 1, wherein the first cylindrical member is selected from the group consisting of radiopaque marker bands, stent retaining members, hubs, catheter tips, or any combination thereof.

Claim 11. (Original) The positioning assembly of claim 10, wherein the second cylindrical member is a catheter tube.

Claim 12. (Original) The positioning assembly of claim 10, wherein the second cylindrical member is the inner tube of a catheter.

Application No. 10/790941  
Page 4

Amendment  
Attorney Docket No. S63.2B-10812-US01

Claims 13-19. (Canceled)

Claim 20. (Currently amended) A positioning assembly of a crimper apparatus for automatically positioning a marker ~~first cylindrical member~~ for crimping to a catheter ~~second cylindrical member~~ comprising:

a first plate and a second plate, the first plate having a first nest to accommodate at least a portion of the catheter ~~first cylindrical member~~, the second plate having a second nest to accommodate at least a portion of the marker ~~first cylindrical member~~ and/or at least a portion of the ~~second cylindrical member~~,

~~the first plate and the second plate longitudinally moveable relative to the second plate along the length of the catheter between first and second positions, the first plate biased toward one of said positions one another, the first plate constructed and arranged to be longitudinally separated from the second plate in a first position, and in a second position the first plate immediately adjacent to the second plate, when in the second position the first plate and the second plate situated such that the first cylindrical member and the second cylindrical member would be in predetermined placement for joining,~~  
the first plate has a nest longitudinally aligned with a nest on the second plate and with a nest on a third plate, the third plate immediately adjacent to the second plate.

Claim 21. (Currently amended) A positioning assembly of a crimper apparatus for automatically positioning a ~~first cylindrical member~~ marker for crimping to a ~~second cylindrical member~~ catheter comprising:

a first plate and a second plate, the first plate having a first nest to accommodate at least a portion of the ~~first cylindrical member~~ catheter, the second plate having a second nest to accommodate at least a portion of the marker ~~first cylindrical member~~ and/or at least a portion of the ~~second cylindrical member~~,

the first plate and the second plate longitudinally moveable relative to one another to adjust a distance between the first nest and the second nest as measured along the length of the catheter, ~~the first plate constructed and arranged to be longitudinally separated from the second plate in a first position, and in a second position the first plate immediately adjacent to the second plate, when in the second position the first plate and the second plate situated such that the first cylindrical member and the second cylindrical member would be in predetermined placement for~~

*Application No. 10/790941*  
*Page 5*

*Amendment*  
*Attorney Docket No. S63.2B-10812-US01*

~~joining, the first plate and the second plate have a plurality of nests, at least two nests on the first plate being longitudinally unaligned from one another and being longitudinally aligned with nests on the second plate.~~

Claim 22. (Currently amended) The positioning assembly of claim 21, further comprising wherein a third nest, the third nest and the first nest located on opposite sides of the second nest, the third nest accommodating at least a portion of the catheter plate with at least two nests longitudinally unaligned with one another are longitudinally aligned with nests on the first plate and the second plate.

Claim 23. (New) The positioning assembly of claim 8, wherein the second nest and the third nest have different geometries.

Claim 24. (New) The positioning assembly of claim 8, the first plate further comprising a fourth nest, the fourth nest offset from the first nest in a direction lateral to the longitudinal axis.

Claim 25. (New) The positioning assembly of claim 24, wherein the first plate is moveable to align the fourth nest with the second nest along the longitudinal axis.

Claim 26. (New) The positioning assembly of claim 1, wherein the first plate contacts the second plate when in the second position.

Claim 27. (New) The positioning assembly of claim 2, further comprising a third nest that is coaxially aligned with the first nest.